About this release

This publication is produced collaboratively by the Information Services Division (ISD) and NHS Education for Scotland (NES). It presents information on the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) workforce staff in post as at 31 March 2017.

Figures are presented as headcount (actual numbers of staff) and whole time equivalent (WTE) which adjusts the figures to take account of part-time working.

Main Points

- Since this data collection began in 2006 there has been a 51.2% increase in the CAMHS workforce from 653.7 WTE (741 headcount) to 988.6 WTE (1,152 headcount) as at 31 March 2017. The majority of this expansion occurred prior to 31 March 2015 and there has been minimal change in the CAMHS workforce in the last two years (a small rise of 0.8% WTE).

Figure 1: Headcount and WTE of CAMHS staff in NHSScotland, 2006-2017.
At 31 March 2017 the average staffing level within NHSScotland CAMHS was 90.5 WTE staff per 100,000 population aged 0 - 18. This figure varies considerably across NHS Boards.

At 31 March 2017 there were 81 individuals undertaking education aimed at supplying the CAMHS workforce. 33 of these are on a CAMHS aligned Doctorate in Clinical Psychology.

At 31 March 2017, 42.3 WTE (4.1%) posts were vacant and in the process of being advertised. This rate has remained steady since 2011.

**Background**

The Scottish Government 10 year Mental Health Strategy 2017-2027 was published in March 2017 ([http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/03/1750](http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/03/1750)). The strategy highlights the need for capacity of care staff to effectively support children and adolescents living with mental health conditions. The strategy acknowledges that while access to CAMHS has improved, demand for this specialism is continuing to increase, and there is a need to look at the whole system, recognising the importance of specialist services, psychological therapies, early interventions at tiers 1 and 2 including provision of support for families through parenting programmes.

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**Further Information**

Further information can be found in the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services in NHSScotland Workforce Information report. A workbook containing data for this report can also be downloaded. You may also be interested in CAMHS waiting times data, also published by ISD.

The next update of this publication will be in September 2017.

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**ISD and Official Statistics**

Information Services Division (ISD) is the principal and authoritative source of statistics on health and care services in Scotland. ISD is designated by legislation as a producer of ‘Official Statistics’. Our official statistics publications are produced to a high professional standard and comply with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. [Further information about our statistics](http://www.isd.scot).